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### **ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG TO HOST RACE BENEFITTING EXTRA TABLE**

Hattiesburg – On Saturday, November 1, 2014, the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg will host its 2nd Annual BIKE-A-THON to benefit Extra Table. The race will begin and end at the Longleaf Trace Gateway at The University of Southern Mississippi. There will be 100 and 60-mile rides beginning at 7:30 a.m. and a 30-mile ride beginning at 8:00 a.m. Registration and bag pick-up will begin at 7 a.m. Upon conclusion of each ride, food will be provided by Tabella to all BIKE-A-THON participants.

The Rotary Club of Hattiesburg is currently seeking sponsorships and to make a donation, contributions can be sent to The Greater PineBelt Community Foundation with “Rotary BIKE-A-THON” written in the memo. Donations made to the Rotary BIKE-A-THON are tax deductible. Community members interested in registering to run or volunteering to help on race day can access more information at [rotaryofhattiesburg.com](http://rotaryofhattiesburg.com). Registration is currently open and will close on Friday, October 31. Registration for adults is \$35 and \$25 for riders aged 12-years and under. To be guaranteed a BIKE-ATHON t-shirt, participants must register by Oct. 10.

Funds raised by this year’s event will benefit Extra Table, a Hattiesburg based non-profit organization whose mission is to fight hunger in the community. By supplying local food pantries and soup kitchens with the food they need every month, Extra Table is helping to solve the ongoing problem of hunger in the Pine Belt. Extra table has an ongoing partnership with Sysco, which is the largest food distributor in the US.

“Choosing Extra Table as the beneficiary for our race was not hard decision,” said Rotary Club President Wes Brooks. “Our eyes were opened late last year when the gravity of the problem they are working to address was revealed to us. The fact that there are children right here in Hattiesburg who, if lucky, call a doughnut or candy bar ‘dinner’ is unacceptable. We are proud to support Extra Table and their efforts to address hunger in the Pine Belt.”

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace throughout the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 31,000 Rotary clubs located in 166 countries. The main objective of Rotary is service and Rotarians worldwide develop community service projects that address many of today’s most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg or the upcoming BIKE-A-THON, please visit [rotaryofhattiesburg.com](http://rotaryofhattiesburg.com).

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